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LETTERS FROM WASHINGTON

ON THE CONSTITUTION, LAWS AND PUBLIC CHARACTERS OF THE UNITED STATES,

By a Foreigner.

(Continued from page 228.)

LETTER V.

WASHINGTON, —, 1818.

LORD B.....

The constitution of the Germanic body, though a federative government, like that of Poland, which was constituted by a confederacy of princes, and which gave, says De la Croix, all the power to the nobility, and all representation to the monarch, entirely fails in analogy, and bears no resemblance to the constitution of this country. I will only add, that it is founded on the principle that the empire is a community of sovereigns, the diet a representation of princes, and the laws addressed only to princes. It is unnecessary, therefore, to enter further into the nature of this body, as its only resemblance to the American government is that of a confederacy. The next federative government to which I must beg to be permitted to direct your attention, is that of the United Netherlands, as it recently existed, which is a confederacy of aristocracies, or as some assert, of independent republics. Seven sovereign states constitute the union, each state is composed of equal and independent cities. These states are represented by deputies chosen by the provinces, whose number is unlimited, and who hold their seats by different tenures. The assembled representatives are vested with the sovereignty of the union, and their powers consist in forming treaties and alliances, raising armies, making war and peace, sending and receiving ambassadors, providing for the collection of duties, regulating the mint and governing the dependant territories, but no resolution of the state can pass into a law till it receives the approbation of every province, every city and every republic of the province. Besides the States general, there are four other bodies of men, in whom the constitution vests considerable power; the council of state, which is composed of twelve deputies from the different provinces; the chamber of accounts and five admiralities. The executive authority is vested in a stadtholder, who is now an hereditary prince. He belongs to what is called the equestrian order, or order of nobles, over which he presides, has the power to propose measures to the assembly of the states, but has no right to a seat; nominates and appoints all officers, civil, military

and naval, and is ex-officio commander in chief of the land and sea forces. The council of state executes the resolutions of the states general, prepares subjects for discussion, proposes the most advantageous plans for levying troops and imposts and furnishes lists of appropriations for the current expenses of the government.†

Each state sends its own deputies, who are chosen by the senators of the towns from their own body, and have at their head a burg-master.— These deputies, usually about fifty, are bound to pay implicit obedience to the instructions of their constituents. The provincial states have their treasurer general, their pensioner and their secretary, of whom the two latter are always members of the states general.‡ Such, my lord, is the celebrated Belgic confederacy. The slightest glance will enable you to discover its numerous imperfections and its vast inferiority to the constitution of the American republic. Grotius has justly observed that nothing but hatred of Austria, has prevented his countrymen from being ruined by the vices of their constitution; and when we consider the inequality of its representation, the jealousy of its provinces, the impossibility in some of the states of paying the contributions levied by their instrument of union, and the frequency with which the articles of the constitution are violated, it is a matter of wonder that it should have existed so long. The characters, says Mr. Madison, in his Federalist, which practice has stampt upon it, are, "imbecility in the government, discord among the provinces, foreign influence and indignities, a precarious existence in peace, and peculiar calamities from war." From the constitution of the United Netherlands to that of the Helvetic confederacy, the transition is easy. This confederacy, according to the constitution adopted in 1803, is formed by the union of the cantons of Switzerland. Each canton is an independent sovereignty, and is represented in the general diet by a deputy, to whom may be added one or more counsellors, who replace him in case of absence or sickness. Those deputies are bound by the instruction of their constituents, and though but nineteen, have twenty-five votes in council. The diets assemble once in every year. It has the power to declare war and make peace, subject, however, to the approbation of three fourths of the cantons; to conclude treaties of commerce, and capitulations for foreign service, to permit foreign powers to recruit in any

†See M. de la Croix's Constitutions.

‡History of the United Provinces.

of the cantons, to levy troops, name the commanders, to appoint ambassadors, regulate the coin, and settle all disputes between the cantons. The avoyer or burghmaster of the directing canton is the president of the diet, who has the additional title of landamman of Switzerland. This officer keeps the seal of the Helvetic republic, receives foreign ministers, and is the medium of diplomatic relations. He lays before the diet at the commencement of the session, whatever may concern the internal and external interests of the league. He can march troops from one canton to another, to suppress revolts, at the request of the great and little council of the canton in need.—When differences arise between cantons in the recess of the diet, he appoints conciliatory arbitrators, and signs all laws to vest them with a national character. §

Such is the outline of the constitution furnished by Napoleon, and adopted by the Swiss cantons in 1803. It is much more perfect than the articles of confederation, by which they were formerly united, and which, as I have before observed, bore so strong a resemblance to the Amphictyonic league. The tyrant of Europe has conferred on the Swiss, at least, a benefit, they will perhaps always enjoy, if they cannot always appreciate it. Having thus, my lord, agreeably to my promise, given you a sketch of the different confederacies of the ancient and modern world, for the purpose of enabling you the more easily to understand the constitution of the American government; let us now glance rapidly over the prominent traits of this sublime effort of human genius, and repose for a moment on the bosom of political excellence. The American confederacy† is constituted by the union of twenty states, each in itself separately considered sovereign and independent, and having its own executive, legislature, judiciary, local constitution and laws.—These states are divided into congressional districts, which are each entitled to one representative, and every state, whatever be its size or population, can send two senators to the National Legislature. The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people. Representatives and direct taxes are apportioned among the states according to the census taken every ten years. The number of electors of President of the United States is, in each state, equal to the number of senators and representatives to which such state is entitled in congress. The citizen of one state has all the privileges of the citizens of the several states. No new state can be

§Macnevin's Switzerland and Helvetic Constitution.

†The idea of a *federal republic*, says Tucker, was probably borrowed from Montesquieu. This is questionable.

created in another, nor formed by the union of two or more states, or part of the states, without the consent of the legislatures of such states.—Each state is entitled to the protection of the United States against foreign invasion or domestic violence; no amendment to the federal constitution can be valid unless sanctioned and ratified by the legislatures of at least three fourths of the several states, two thirds of whom, upon application to congress, can call a convention to propose amendments, which, when ratified as above, become a part of the constitution. Such are the features of this instrument in relation to the different states that constitute the American confederacy. You will perceive, that it is not only a social, but a federal compact. * In its foundation, it is federal, not national or social; the sources from which the ordinary powers of the government are drawn, is partly federal and partly national; in the operation of these powers, it is national, not federal; in the extent of them, it is federal, not national; and finally, in the authoritative mode of introducing amendment, it is neither wholly federal, nor national.† In short, it is a written compact, by which power is created and obedience enacted. The senators and representatives chosen from the different states, assemble at Washington, the seat of the general government, at least once in every year, and compose the Congress of the United States, which, as I have before observed, consists of two houses, the Senate and House of Representatives. Each house makes its own rules, chooses its own officers, except the Vice President, determines the election returns and qualifications of its own members, and keeps a journal of its own proceedings. The House of Representatives originates all impeachments, and the Senate tries them. In congress the legislative authority, or as Blackstone calls it, the *sovereignty*,‡ is lodged. To this body, the constitution has given these powers, which you will see defined in the 1st art. and 8th sec. of the copy of the instrument I send you.

It will be seen from an examination of the powers above mentioned, that they are all necessary and proper to give vigor to the federal compact. In some instances, however, these powers have been restrained, and these restraints have been ascertained by experience, to be highly salutary and beneficial. I shall briefly run them over, for your better information. It is provided, that all taxes, duties, imposts and excises, shall be uniform, and no preference shall be given to one state over another. That the writ of *habeas corpus*

*Federalist, vol. 2, p. 26, 77.

†In this country the sovereign power is retained by the people. In each state the government is distributed into two branches, internal and external; the former is confided in the state government; the latter in the federal.

shall not be suspended, except in times of invasion or rebellion; that no bill of attainder shall be passed, and no direct tax laid, but in proportion to the census of the inhabitants of the different states; that no money shall be drawn from the national treasury, but in consequence of appropriations; that no title of nobility shall be granted and that no person holding any office of trust or profit, shall accept of any office, title or emolument from any foreign prince, king or state, without the consent of congress. In relation to the states individually, the powers withdrawn from them by the federal constitution are these:—

Sec. 10. That no state shall enter into any treaty, alliance or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No state shall, without the consent of congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts laid by any state on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of congress. No state shall, without the consent of congress, lay any duty on tonnage, keep troops, or ships of war, in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

In order to prevent an undue exercise of power in the general government, which might tend to affect the rights of the states or those of citizens, it is declared, that treason shall consist only in levying war against the United States, or adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort; that no person shall be convicted of treason, but on the testimony of two witnesses, or on confession in open court; that no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture, except during life; that no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting its free exercise, can be made; and that the liberty of speech and the press, the right of the people to assemble to petition government for a redress of grievances, and their right to bear arms, cannot be abridged or infringed. To prevent oppression, it is provided that no soldiers shall be quartered in any house in time of peace, without the consent of the owner, and to secure the citizen from unreasonable search, it is declared, that no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation. It is also provided that no person shall be held to answer for any capital or infamous offence, except in the land and sea service, unless in presentment or indictment

of a grand jury, nor answer for the same offence twice; that in all criminal and civil suits above twenty dollars, he shall have the right of jury trial; that he shall not, in any criminal case, be compelled to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law. In criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right of a speedy and public trial by jury of the district in which the crime was committed; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for witnesses in his favor, and the assistance of counsel, and finally, that excessive bail shall not be imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted. You will easily discover, and it must be always understood, that the powers not expressly delegated, are reserved to the states and the people. All constructive or assumed powers are considered as dangerous to the liberties of the citizen, and fatal to the rights and the union of the states. Powers derived from the constitution, by mere construction, ought never to be assumed, and should always be carefully avoided, because, constructive power is in nature unlimited and despotic. I am sorry to state, however, that congress have sometimes indulged in these unwarrantable constructions, because I fear they may ultimately operate as precedents fatal to the permanent existence of the constitution. Thus, my lord, whether we consider this instrument of union as a social or federal compact, its excellencies are beyond all praise, and its superiority to those confederacies, I have endeavored to describe, cannot be questioned. As long as it is preserved, the security of the citizen and the union of the states, will be guaranteed, and the country thus governed, become the home of the free, the retreat of misery, and the assylum of persecuted humanity. As a written compact, it is *cinique* in politics, an unprecedented and perfect example of representative democracy, to which the attention of mankind is now enthusiastically directed. § More happily and exquisitely organized than the Amphyc-tionic, Achaen, Swiss and Holland confederacies, which I have mentioned. The American constitution is, in truth, at once "a monument of genius, and an edifice of strength and majesty." The union of its parts, says the Chevalier Deslandes, forms its solidity, and the harmony of its proportions, constitutes its beauty. † May it always be preserved inviolate by the gallant and high-minded people of America, and may they never forget that its destruction will be the inevitable death.

§ "La constitution des Americains a un merite bien precieux; c'est celui de la concision. Ainsi, il n'y a pas un chef, pas un agent de l'autorite, pas un citoyen qui ne soit a meme de connoitre, en un instant, l'entendue de ses devoirs, des pouvoirs qu'il a recus on de ceux qu'il a delegues." De La Croix, discours Sur La Revolution, Deslandes.

blow of liberty, and the probable passport to universal despotism. Adieu.

S—.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER.
THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

The career of this young statesman has been active and elevated. He has aimed to advance the true interests of his country; untrammelled by party, and unbiassed by sectional prejudices; he already occupies a wide space in public view, and an analysis of the past will give to us the best hopes of his future career.

To a mind active and discriminating, he adds boldness of conception, and steadiness of purpose. He forms his opinions by a rapid intuition, but he forms them correctly; for having settled in his own breast certain general principles he brings to this standard any subject which presents itself.—With a moral intrepidity which fears no consequence, he has uniformly appeared as the champion of national interests; at times at war with the peculiar tenets of all parties, but invariably consistent with himself. The change of rulers, in the eventful contest of 1801, produced a corresponding change of measures, and in the heat of the conflict the true interests of the nation were sometimes forgotten. When Calhoun came forward on the theatre, our statesmen preserved the lines of party demarkation, fixed and unvarying; they adhered to early opinions with the pertinacity of bigots, and seemed willing to aspire even to the character of martyrs in defence of their faith. Now that the period of excitement is over, and public opinion has consecrated leading national measures, the history of past times appears almost incredible. Will posterity believe that in the management of our external relations, the policy of the federalists tended to render this country subservient to England? that instead of wishing to assume the position which providence has assigned to us, they seemed determined to place us in an attitude secondary and humiliating? Hence when our commercial rights were assailed, our flag disgraced, and our citizens incarcerated, the federalists, as a party, virtually advocated submission. They went further and declared that "England had done us no essential injury."—They even appeared disposed to entomb the honor of their country, for they refused to rejoice at its triumphs, or be elevated by its successes. This was temporary fanaticism! The deductions of reason, the soundest maxims of policy, I had almost said, the dictates of common sense were lost sight of in the asperity of party.

But the federalists were not solitary in error. If their policy upon our external relations was to chill national pride and depress us in the scale of

empire, that of the democratic party upon our internal concerns was no less perverse and delusive. The administration of Jefferson was based upon a reaction of public opinion with regard to the prominent measures of the federal administration; many of these measures first developed, and *organized* important national institutions, without which society itself would be arrested in its progress, from causes which have their foundation in human imperfection; these institutions had been opposed with energy and perseverance by the democratic minority. Of course when this party succeeded to power, at the election of Jefferson, they were compromised in opinion, and compelled to give a practical illustration of their views. Our naval establishment had been attacked; it now received but little encouragement. The bank, a leading fiscal, as well as commercial measure, had been strenuously resisted—it was now consigned to everlasting oblivion. As a system of naval defence for our harbors, gun boats were resorted to; the army was reduced to a pitiful force of 3,000 men, without the means of preserving even the humble elements of military science. Commercial restrictions were employed to coerce nations into a respect for our rights. False principles of economy prevented the necessary preparations for war, by fortifying our exposed points, by erecting capacious arsenals at places where they would probably be needed, and presenting to the view of nations the aspect of power as well as of friendship.

While the nation was thus distracted with the prejudices of the two political parties in 1811–12, Calhoun appeared in our national councils. The crisis was eventful and the aspect of the times portended the approach of an awful storm. There were associated with him, from his own state, two colleagues of whom I shall only remark that they possessed commanding talents, and the most exalted patriotism. His views soon developed themselves as resting upon the basis of national welfare. He refined the gold from the dross of both political sects, and adopted the amalgamation as the standard of his policy. He wrested from the administration opinions which time had consecrated, and the opposition have since repented their follies in sack-cloth and ashes. On the subject of our foreign relations, he sought to protect our sovereignty and defend our lawful commerce as a vital right; to place the nation in the attitude she now sustains, commanding, respected and feared. To accomplish these objects it has been his constant effort with reference to internal measures; to organize our institutions, to enlarge our modes of thought, and to inculcate lofty principles of action. He combatted on the side of administration, when it determined to make com-

merce a citidel, and protect it with the national force. He brought all his talents into action for the increase of our naval establishment, for the abandonment of the system of commercial restrictions; for the creation of a bank, as necessary to our finance as well as to our commerce. At times he opposed each party in some antiquated and favorite creed, and he came off victorious in every conflict. The highest eulogium which can be paid to his political career, is the circumstance that all parties have adopted his leading opinions as settled axioms of national policy, and have awarded to his talents and virtues unanimous approbation.

The loss of this statesman from the Hall of Congress will be severely felt, but in the new duties to which he is called, we predict the nation will reap a higher benefit from his intelligence and services. To the cabinet he will give weight and to the army reputation. The former will receive the full benefits of an intellect which analyses the future almost with the spirit of prophecy—the latter will, we are confident, experience new vigor from the decision and energy which mark his character. The important duties of fortifying our different frontiers so as to present an armour calculated for any contingency; of reforming and elevating our military school; of establishing at every point capacious arsenals and depots; of exploring our country in all directions, and concentrating the result in a board of topography at the capitol; imparting new life to the officers of our little army, and habituating them to that mental exertion which leads to distinction in science as well as in arms. These, we trust, will occupy his attention, and distinguish the epoch of his present employment.

As a legislator, the nation in adopting his principles, has marked him out as one of her brightest ornaments; as the chief of an important department, we feel assured he will exemplify those principles by the whole course of his administration.

OUR RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

(Continued from page 233.)

[Translation.]

The Chevalier Don Luis de Onís to the Secretary of State.

SIR—I have received your letter of the 16th of this month, by which I see with great regret, that in acknowledging the receipt of those I had the honor to address to you on the 29th of last month, and the 5th and 8th of the present, you omit to answer them, and decline taking into consideration the indisputable facts and grounds, and the irresistible arguments advanced in them, in relation to each of the points embraced by the dispute set on foot by the government of the United States. You say it is useless again to discuss the facts, reasons and arguments produced by the Spanish government in the years 1802, 1803 & 1805,

the American plenipotentiaries and the special extraordinary mission, conjointly with him, having then replied to the different points of the notes of the Spanish ministry, in a manner capable of elucidating the respective rights of each of the two powers, and establishing the pretensions of the government of the United States; for proof of which you refer me to the letters of Messrs. Monroe and Pinckney, to his catholic majesty's minister, Don Pedro Cevallos, of the 28th of Jan. 26th Feb. 8th and 16th of March, 9th and 20th April, and 12th of May, 1805.

I think it proper to observe, in the first place, that although the facts, grounds, and arguments, then produced by the Spanish government, do not differ essentially from those stated in my notes—their irresistible and conclusive force is neither altered nor in any manner impaired. Truth is of all times; and reason and justice are founded on immutable principles. It is on these principles that the rights of the crown of Spain are founded to the territories eastward and westward of Louisiana, claimed by your government as making a part of that province; rights of immemorial property and possession, never disputed, but always notorious, and acknowledged by other nations.

In the second place, I must remark to you, that throughout the whole correspondence on this subject, between the ministry of the United States and that of his catholic majesty, there is not a single fact, or a single argument, that can effect the certainty, or decisive force of the facts, grounds, and reasons, which support and determine the aforesaid rights of the crown of Spain. There does not appear to be a single incident to give the smallest support to the pretensions of your government. All the vague positions on which it has been attempted to found them, have been refuted and dissipated by the Spanish government, by a demonstration so luminous and convincing, as to leave no alternative to reason to resist it.

To lay all this aside, and merely to say, "that it is a matter already thoroughly debated, on which nothing further essential can be urged, and that the American government insists on maintaining a contrary opinion," is to adopt an arbitrary cause, because, this opinion not being supported by any solid foundation, and being, as it is, diametrically opposite to the unquestionable result of facts, and to the most incontestible principles and arguments, does not, nor can it give to the United States any right to the pretensions they have formed. Neither can it be required, that the government of Spain should subscribe to this opinion, and renounce its rights to the territory which the United States wish to possess in the Spanish provinces bordering on these States, since that opinion, as I have already said, is altogether groundless and arbitrary, and since, on those rights, there neither does, nor can there fall any doubt.

It is the sincere wish of his catholic majesty, that a just mode of amicably settling all pending differences may be adopted, and he has authorized me, for this purpose; but neither the powers he has conferred on me, nor my own sense of duty, permit me to enter into an arrangement which is not based upon the principles of common justice, combined in good faith with the suitable considerations of reciprocal utility or convenience. Being anxiously desirous of carrying the wishes and frank dispositions of my sovereign into execution,

I suggested to you, in our last verbal conference, the expediency of your making to me such proposals as you might think fit, to reconcile the rights and interests of both powers, by a definitive arrangement of the differences pending between them. Since you communicated the present state of things to the president, you have proposed to me in your note a plan of arrangement or adjustment, embracing the question of boundaries, and that of indemnities, which is as follows:

To settle the former, you propose "that Spain shall cede all her claims to territory eastward of the Mississippi (that is to say, the two Floridas;) and that the Colorado, from its mouth to its source, and from thence to the northern limits of Louisiana, shall be the western boundary of that province."

I have expressed in one proposal what you have stated in two, as both are reduced to the cession of territory by Spain. It is not only pretended that Spain shall cede both Floridas to the United States, but that she shall likewise cede to them, the vast extent of Spanish territory comprehended within the line following the whole course of the Colorado. I presume that it is the river Colorado of Natchitoches you speak of, and not of another bearing the same name, and which is still farther within the limits of the Spanish provinces. I leave it to you, sir, to examine the import of these two proposals, and to see whether they are compatible with the principles of justice or those of reciprocal utility or convenience. It is demanded of Spain to cede provinces and territories of the highest importance, not only to the eastward, but to the westward of Louisiana, and that without proposing any equivalent or compensation.

To settle the question of indemnities, you make the following proposals:

1. That indemnity for spoliation on American citizens, committed by Spaniards or by French within the jurisdiction of Spain, as well as for injuries sustained by American citizens, by the interruption of the deposit at New Orleans, shall be settled by a joint commission, as agreed upon in the convention of 1802.

2. The lands in East Florida and in West Florida, to the Perdido, to be made answerable to the United States for the amount of the indemnities which may appear to be due by Spain to American citizens, on the settlement to be made by commissioners appointed according to the convention of 1802; it being at the option of the United States to take the lands and pay the amount of indemnities according to the award on the claims, or to sell the lands and effect the payment with the proceeds of the sales. To this proposal you add, that all grants of lands subsequent to the 11th of August, 1802, are to be null and void.

3. That Spain shall be exonerated from the payment of the debts, or any part of them.

Before I reply to these three proposals, I must repeat the uniform declaration of the Spanish government to the United States, that his catholic majesty is, and always has been, ready to settle the question of indemnities, with a view to the full satisfaction of the just claims of the parties interested; and that his majesty has always manifested the same sincere desire to settle definitively the question of boundaries to the satisfaction of both powers; and that if neither of these ob-

jects has been accomplished, it has not depended upon the government of Spain. The contrary is evident, beyond the possibility of denial, from the official correspondence between his catholic majesty's minister of state, and the plenipotentiaries of the American government, who suspended and broke off the negotiation at Aranjuez, after having obstinately refused to accept the modifications founded on strict justice, which were proposed by the Spanish government.

I now proceed to state the most obvious and essential difficulties which render your three proposals for the settlement of indemnities inadmissible. I observe, that in speaking of them, you only mention the spoliation suffered by American citizens, and omit that which is equally due to Spaniards for spoliation committed on them by the citizens and authorities of this republic, in violation of the law of nations and existing treaty.

I also observe that you not only omit this indispensable basis of reciprocity and common justice, but propose the immediate cession of both the Floridas, which two Spanish provinces are to be retained by the United States, as an indemnity or payment of what may appear to be due by Spain to American citizens, according to the arbitration of the joint commission.

You cannot fail to admit, sir, that this proposal, independent of its justice, is offensive to the dignity and honor of his catholic majesty. It is unjust, because it demands an indemnity or anticipated payment of claims yet to be proved and liquidated, while, at the same time, it provides for no correspondent indemnity or payment of what may be due by the United States to Spanish subjects. It is offensive to the dignity and honor of Spain, because, by the very fact of demanding this anticipation, a want of confidence in the integrity and punctuality in his catholic majesty's government, is manifested, whereas a single instance does not exist of Spain having failed in fulfilling her engagements, the most scrupulous exactness, good faith and strict observance of the point of honor having at all times invariably formed the distinguishing traits of her character. It, therefore, becomes unnecessary to point out to you the enormous disproportion between the value of the two Floridas, and that of the probable amount of the claims of American citizens on the government of Spain, after they are ascertained and liquidated. This disproportion will be still more enormous, when you consider that, in the first of the three proposals, to which I am now replying, is included the indemnity for spoliation on citizens of this republic by French cruisers and consuls on the coast and in the ports of Spain, by the tribunals of cassation in France, confirming the condemnation of American prizes.

It has been proved by mathematical demonstration, that Spain, neither is nor can be responsible in any way for this indemnity. It is France which must be responsible, if she has not already satisfied the claim, as her government assures she has done.

Nor can I omit to declare to you, sir, that the pretension of annulling the grants of lands in Florida, since August, 1802, would be in opposition to all the principles of justice. These grants are made in a lawful manner, and by a lawful authority. Spain was the owner and peaceful possessor of those lands. She had then an indisputable right to make the grants you allude to, as she now has the property of the territory, afterwards for-

gibly taken possession of by the United States, since a violent dispossession never deprives an individual or nation of their lawful rights. I proceed to your last proposal, which is, that on the admission of those proceeding, Spain shall be exonerated from all obligation to pay the debts or claims, which may be due to American citizens, on their settlement and liquidation by the joint commission. I conceive this to be the import of the expressions, stating that "Spain shall be exonerated from the payment of the debts, or any part of them." This proposition is a corollary of the two preceding it, since, if Spain should cede the two Floridas to the United States as an indemnity or compensation for the losses and injuries done to the citizens of this republic, she would necessarily be exonerated from this responsibility, the cession being, in such case, equivalent to a final discharge of the claims referred to. I go farther. Supposing your two last proposals for the definitive adjustment of the question of indemnities to be admitted and carried into effect, the one preceding, namely, that which refers this business to the award of commissioners, to be appointed by both governments, agreeably to the convention of 1802, would be useless and contradictory. As none of the proposals offered by you, provide any indemnity for the losses and injuries caused to Spaniards, nor even makes any mention of them; and as by the two last proposals, if admitted, the losses and injuries sustained by American citizens, would be indemnified and compensated, according to the wishes of your government, and Spain would, consequently, be exonerated from all responsibility on this head: it is clear, that the business would then be settled and cancelled, and there would be no necessity for recurring to arbitration.

Finally, I cannot refrain from expressing my great concern, at not being able in any degree to reconcile the proposals you have made me by order of the President, with the inviolable principles of common justice; and on perceiving, that on the part of the United States, no basis is presented of a due reciprocity for the adjustment of the differences pending, the said proposals being altogether inadmissible.

I repeat to you, sir, that the king, my master, being desirous to meet the wishes of the United States in respect to the cession of the Floridas, although it is well known, how highly important those two provinces are to cover and secure the possession of Spain in that part of America, his majesty is ready to cede them, provided he is compensated by an equivalent in territory belonging to the United States and bordering on the Spanish possessions; and it is under this idea, that the powers and instructions I have from my government, are conceived. But you cannot fail to admit, that the plan of adjustment proposed, involves exorbitant and enormous sacrifices, to the prejudice of Spain, since without offering any equivalent or compensation on the part of the United States, it requires not only the cession of both the Floridas, but also that of immense territories belonging to the Spanish monarchy westward of Louisiana; and, that in relation to the question of reciprocal indemnities, it only comprehends those respecting American citizens, omitting those due to the crown and subjects of his catholic majesty. This plan of adjustment would amount to the following one: "Give me all I wish to ask, and give up all you may justly

claim or show is yours." I am, however, perfectly persuaded, that this neither is nor can be your intention, or that of your government; and that in making these proposals for an adjustment, your only object was to afford me an opportunity, to make such as you might consider just and admissible.

I shall, therefore, point out to you such as I conceive to be founded in justice and reciprocal convenience, and therefore cannot fail to meet the wishes of the United States.

1. "The dividing line between Louisiana and the Spanish possessions to be established in one of the branches of the Mississippi, either that of La Fourche, or of the Achafalaya, following the course of that river to its source. Spain to cede the two Floridas to the United States in full and complete sovereignty."

In case this proposal should not appear admissible to your government, the following may be substituted: "The *uti possidetis*, or state of possession in 1763, to form the basis and western line of division to be established from the sea, at a point between the rivers Carcasa and the Marmentas or Marmentao running thence by Arroyo Hondo, till it crosses the Colorado of Natichitoches, between that point and Adaes, thence northward to a point to be fixed and laid down by commissioners respectively appointed for the purpose."

2. His catholic majesty to ratify the convention of 1802, and both governments to abide by the decision of the joint commission on the question of indemnities, classing such as those which regard American citizens and the crown and subjects of his catholic majesty, for spoils taken reciprocally committed to the period of the said convention, and thereafter to the date of the confirmation of the adjustment by the joint commission. Five or seven members to compose the commission, with this condition, that if they are five, each government shall respectively nominate a person for the fifth member, to be chosen by lot, provided they cannot agree on the person to be so chosen; the same to take place for the fifth, sixth and seventh, if there be seven members; but the fifth, in the first instance, and the fifth, sixth and seventh, in the second, shall neither be Spaniards nor citizens of the United States by birth or naturalization. They shall moreover, be, by their profession and office, judges of the number of those subjects, who among maritime and commercial nations, are usually employed to judge and decide on matters connected with maritime law and the law of nations, whether in France, England, Russia, Austria, or the Netherlands. In both cases, the person so designated, to be provided with a certificate of the country he belongs to, proving the opinion entertained of his integrity and capacity, his quality and actual profession as judge in the matters referred to, and also the assurance, that permission shall be granted to him for discharging the duties of the commission, in case the said person shall be chosen by lot.

With these modifications suggested with prudence, impartiality, and the most perfect rectitude, and excluding, as is just, the indemnity for the spoils committed on the commerce of this republic, by French privateers and consuls on the coasts and in the ports of Spain, and by the tribunals of cassation in France. The convention of 1802, to be ratified and carried into execution.

3. His catholic majesty, to unite with the United States in using their best endeavors to obtain from France the correspondent indemnity for the spoiliations just mentioned, in case that question has not already been settled between the French and American governments.

4 The government of the U. States to engage to take effectual measures to prevent all hostile armaments in their ports and territory against the commerce and possessions of Spain, either by Americans or any other power, or by adventurers of any other nations, or by the rebels of Spanish America; and for their due execution, the President to issue positive orders to all persons employed by the government, charging them on their responsibility, to guard against any infraction or violation of them whatsoever, extending the same measures to the preventing of any vessel employed in cruising against the Spanish commerce or otherwise hostilely engaged against the government and subjects of his catholic majesty, from arming in, or entering armed, the harbors and waters of the U. States. Every vessel of this description, found within the jurisdiction of the U. States, to be seized without remission and subjected to the rigor of the law by the American officers and authorities; and the vessels and property so captured, belonging to the subjects of the crown of Spain, to be laid under attachment, definitively delivered to his majesty's minister, or the nearest Spanish consul, to be held by them at the disposal of the lawful owners. This proposal contains nothing beyond the obligations, already imposed by the laws of the U. States, the law of nations, and the existing treaty. But as it is evident to you, and to the whole world, that abuses and infractions of these laws and solemn compacts, have been, and continue to be, frequently practised, it is absolutely necessary that suitable measures be adopted, fully and effectually to prevent the repetition of similar abuses and infractions.

By these four proposals, the rights and interests of both powers are reconciled upon principles of manifest justice and reciprocal utility; they settle and terminate all pending differences, in my judgement, satisfactorily to both nations; and I must presume, that the President will view them in the same light, and substantially admit them.

In case there be any other question of secondary, or minor importance, to be in like manner included in the general and definitive adjustment, it will be easy, and follow of course, after we have agreed on the most essential articles or points; we will then also determine the true import of the several propositions laid down, and explain each one of them with the necessary clearness, accuracy and precision.

If, however, you should find any difficulty or obstacle to the acceptance of the proposal, I have now the honour to make to you, and are of opinion, that by any other mode we may attain the desired object, without deviating from the fundamental principles and basis of justice and reciprocal convenience, I will, with great pleasure, be ready to adopt it, provided it be compatible with the powers given me by the king, my master.

In this view, you can propose such changes or modifications, as you may see fit, as are calculated to remove all difficulties on both sides, and reconcile the rights, interests and wishes of both powers.

In the mean time, I hope that the course pursued by the President (en la marcha de su con-

ducta) will correspond with the sentiments and uniform profession of amity and perfect harmony existing between his majesty and the U. States; and I am therefore constrained to reclaim and protest formally, as I now do, against all measures whatsoever, injurious to the crown of Spain, and to renew, as I hereby do, the protest already made against the occupation of Amelia Island, and against the orders to occupy Galvezton, inasmuch as the United States, having no right whatever, either to the said island, or to Galvezton, they neither had, nor could have, a just motive or cause to sanction similar acts of violence in the midst of peace.

I await your answer to this note, in order that we may accelerate the moment of agreeing on just and fit measures for carrying the definitive settlement of all pending differences into effect.

In the mean time, I renew to you, sir, the assurances of my constant respect.

God preserve you many years.

LUIS DE ONIS.

Washington, 24th January, 1818.
(To be continued.)

NATIONAL LEGISLATURE. FIRST SESSION—FIFTEENTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

Friday April 10.

The President of the U. States communicated to the Senate a list of the several agents of Indian affairs and trading houses, with their emoluments, in a report from the secretary of State, which was read. The President also communicated a report from the secretary of war respecting the supplies of the north-western army, from September 1st, 1812, to May 31, 1813, by contractors, commissaries, and agents, and the expense thereby incurred.

The bill to suspend, for a limited time, the forfeiture of lands for failure in completing the payment thereon, was ordered to a third reading.

The bill to prohibit the importation of slaves was passed.

Saturday April 11.

The principal business of public importance transacted this day, was the adoption of the amendments reported to the neutrality bill, and the bill to authorize an assistant President and assistant Cashier for the Bank of the U. States to sign the notes of the Bank, the latter occupied the Senate until half past 5 o'clock, when it adjourned without taking any question on the bill.

Monday April 13.

The committee on naval affairs were discharged from a further consideration of the bill, to authorize the establishment of naval depots, and dock yards.

The bills received from the House of Representatives on Saturday were passed.

The bill to suspend, for a limited time, the forfeiture of public lands was passed and sent to the House.

Illinois to be a State.

The bill from the house of representatives authorizing the people of Illinois to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of the same into the union on the footing of other states, was taken up and debated. A motion was made by Mr. Tait to postpone the further consid-

eration of the subject to the 4th July next, which was negatived by the following vote :

YEAS—Messrs. Daggett, King, Sanford, Tait—4.

NAYS—Messrs. Barbour, Burrill, Campbell, Crittenden, Dana, Dickerson, Eppes, Fromentin, Horsey, Hunter, Johnson, Lacock, Leake, Macon, Morril, Morrow, Noble, Otis, Ruggles, Smith, Stokes, Storer, Talbot, Taylor, Tichenor, Van Dyke, Williams of Miss. Williams of Ten. Wilson—28.

The bill was then ordered to be read a third time.

Executive business occupied the remainder of the sitting.

Tuesday, April 14.

The committee of conference upon the disagreeing vote of the two houses on the amendments of the bill respecting the appointment of Indian agents, &c. recommended yesterday for the senate to recede from their amendments, which was this day agreed to in part.

The bill for the admission of Illinois into the union, was passed and returned to the house of representatives.

The bill supplementary to the act for incorporating the subscribers to the bank of the United States, (authorizing the appointment of a Vice-President and deputy Cashier, &c.) was read a third time, and the question on its passage decided as follows :

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Burrill, Campbell, Crittenden, Daggett, Dana, Dickerson, Eppes, Hunter, King, Leake, Morrow, Otis, Stokes, Storer, Tait, Taylor, Tichenor—18.

NAYS—Messrs. Fromentin, Gaillard, Goldsborough, Horsey, Lacock, Morril, Noble, Ruggles, Sanford, Smith, Talbot, Van Dyke, Williams of Miss. Williams of Ten. Wilson—15.

So the bill was passed, and sent to the house of representatives for concurrence.

Wednesday, April 15.

The following resolution was submitted yesterday by Mr. Horsey for consideration, which was taken up to day and agreed to as follows :

Resolved, That the secretary of the treasury procure and lay before the senate of the United States, immediately after the commencement of the next session of congress, a statement showing what sum was actually paid by the subscribers, on account of the capital stock of the Bank of the United States, at the several times of payment prescribed by the charter, in gold and silver coin and what sum in the funded debt of the United States. Also, showing the amount of the capital stock of the said Bank, as the same may then be, specifying what proportion thereof is of gold and silver coin, and what proportion is of the funded debt. Also, shewing the amount of the debts due to the said Bank, specifying the amount due at Philadelphia, and the amount due at the office of discount and deposit, respectively, and discriminating between the amount of the deposits made by individuals, and the amount made on account of the public. Also, shewing the notes issued, and the notes in circulation, specifying the amount payable at the Bank in Philadelphia, and the amount payable at the offices of discount and deposit, respectively.

An attempt was made to authorize the erection of the additional executive offices, on any public

square the president might designate, east of Sixth street west, except the capitol square, which was negatived by a vote of 19 to 16. The bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading by a vote of 25 to 10.

A communication was received from the secretary of the treasury, in answer to the resolution of the senate, of the 4th inst. respecting the amount of funded debt paid into the Bank of the United States, &c. &c. which was read and ordered to be printed.

Thursday, April 16.

The resolution submitted by Mr. Goldsborough yesterday, was taken up and agreed to, as follows :

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to direct the proper officer to lay before the Senate, at an early period of their next session, a list of such offices of the customs, with the name of their officers, salaries, emoluments, and the places where held, as it may be proper to suppress and discharge, in consequence of their unproductiveness, the inconsiderable services rendered, or of any other cause.

The bill to provide for the erection of additional buildings for the accommodation of the Executive departments was passed

The Public Buildings.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the public buildings, and for furnishing the Capitol and President's House.

Mr. Lacock moved to strike out of the bill the clause making an appropriation for commencing the erection of the centre building of the Capitol.

This motion was decided in the negative by yeas and nays, as follows :

YEAS—Messrs. Eppes, Lacock, Morrow, Stokes, Taylor, Wilson—6.

NAYS—Messrs. Barbour, Burrill, Crittenden, Daggett, Fromentin, Gaillard, Goldsborough, Horsey, Hunter, Johnson, King, Leake, Macon, Morril, Otis, Roberts, Sanford, Smith, Tait, Talbot, Tichenor, Van Dyke, Williams of Miss. Williams, of Ten.—24.

Mr. Macon then moved to strike out the appropriation of twenty thousand dollars in addition to what has already been expended, for furnishing the President's House.

This motion was advocated by Mr. Macon and Mr. Eppes, at some length, and briefly by Mr. Wilson; after which.

The question was taken on the motion and decided in the negative, by yeas and nays as follows :

YEAS—Messrs. Burrill, Crittenden, Dickerson, Eppes, Macon, Morrow, Ruggles, Talbot, Taylor, Tichenor, Wilson—11.

NAYS—Messrs. Barbour, Daggett, Fromentin, Gaillard, Goldsborough, Horsey, Hunter, Johnson, King, Lacock, Leake, Morril, Otis, Roberts, Sanford, Smith, Stokes, Storer, Tait, Van Dyke, Williams of Miss. Williams of Ten.—22.

And the bill was then ordered to be read a third time, as amended by the Senate.

The bill directing the completion of the survey of the waters of the Chesapeake, was considered and ordered to a third reading. Executive business concluded the sitting.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, April, 10.

The House refused to give the governors of states and territories, the privilege of franking official communications.

Mr. Spencer, from the judiciary committee, submitted a resolution which was subsequently amended so as to read as follows:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the official conduct of William P. Van Ness, as Judge of the southern district of New York, William Stephens as Judge of the district of Georgia, and Mathias B. Tallmadge as Judge of the Northern district of New York. With power to send for persons and papers; that the said committee shall continue during the present Congress, and may report at the present or ensuing session, by resolution or otherwise, which was adopted, and a committee of five appointed.

In addition to a number of bills for individual claims, were passed a bill to incorporate the Columbian institute; and a bill to increase the pay of the militia whilst in actual service.

The House refused to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill to provide for the recovery of slaves, &c. escaping from their masters by a vote of 73 to 63.

Navigation bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, upon the bill from the Senate concerning navigation. A debate arose which occupied the House the remainder of the sitting; before it was concluded the House adjourned.

Saturday, April 11.

The House transacted much business of a local or personal interest, after which they considered the

Navigation bill.

The debate was concluded and the bill being put on its passage to a third reading, was decided in the affirmative as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Abbott, Allen, Mass. Allen, Vt. Baldwin, Barbour, Va. Barbour, Ohio, Bassett, Bateman, Bennett, Bloomfield, Boden, Butler, Campbell, Clagett, Colston, Comstock, Crafts, Crawford, Cruger, Culbreth, Cushman, Darlington, Desha, Drake, Earle, Edwards, Floyd, Folger, Forney, Forsyth, Gage, Hale, Hall, Del. Hasbrouck, Hiester, Hitchcock, Hogg, Holmes, Con. Hopkinson, Hubbard, Hunter, Huntingdon, Ingham, Irving, N. Y. Johnson, Ken. Kinsey, Kirtland, Lawyer, Lewis, Linn, Little, Livermore, Lowndes, W. Maclay, W. P. Maclay, M'Coy, Marchand, Mason, R. I. Merrill, Miller, Moore, Morton, Moseley, Mumford, Murray, Jer. Nelson, H. Nelson, T. M. Nelson, New, Ogden, Owen, Palmer, Parrott, Patterson, Pawling, Pindall, Pitkin, Pleasants, Poindexter, Porter, Quarles, Reed, Rhea, Rich, Richards, Ringgold, Robertson, Lou. Ruggles, Rogers, Sampson, Savage, Scudder, Sergeant, Settle, Seybert, Shaw, Sherwood, Silsbee, Simkins, S. Smith, Bal. Smith, Alex. Smyth, J. S. Smith, Southard, Spencer, Strong, Strother, Tallmadge, Tarr, Taylor, Terry, Tompkins, Townsend, Tyler, Upham, Walker, Ken. Wallace, Wendover, Whiteside, Whitman, Williams, Con. Williams, N. Y. Williams, N. C. Wilkin, 123.

NAYS.—Messrs. Adams, Austin, Ellicott, Ervin, S. C. Garnett, Hall, N. C. Harrison, Hendricks, Herrick, Holmes, Mass. Johnson, Va. Mercer, Peter, Rice, Stewart, N. C. Wilson, Mass. 16.

The bill was then read a third time passed and returned to the Senate.

Adjourned.

Monday, April 15.

As usual much unfinished business was acted upon, and private claims considered and disposed of.

The House ordered to a third reading the bill from the Senate "regulating the pay and emoluments of brevet rank;" and postponed indefinitely, the bill repealing so much of an act as allows pay and emoluments to brevet rank.

The House next resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Bassett in the chair, on the bill to increase the duties on imported iron in bars and bolts, iron in pigs, castings, nails and allum, and to disallow the drawback of duties on the re-exportation of gunpowder.

A debate upon the object of this bill and its details, occupied more than two hours, after which the committee, without taking the question, rose and obtained leave to sit again. Adjourned.

Tuesday, April 14.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Edwin Lewis, soliciting the House to take into their consideration, the charges preferred by him at the last session against Harry Toulmin, a judge of the late territory of Mississippi, now a judge of the Alabama, and stating that he is prepared to substantiate the said charges; which letter was referred to the judiciary committee.

Mr. Smith, of Maryland, laid before the house an act of the British Parliament, of July 1, 1802, concerning certain trade between the United States and the West India islands, which was ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

On motion of Mr. Mercer,

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to lay before this House a statement of the number and respective dates of the contracts made for the completion of the Cumberland road, exhibiting therein the names of the several contractors, the extent of the road provided for by each contract, and the cost thereof per lineal mile, and of all the mason work per solid perch: That the said statement furnish, where practicable, the cost of the several bridges erected upon the said road; that it also present the total cost of the said road, the extent thereof, already completed or contracted for, and of the part thereof for which no contract has been made, with the probable expense of completing the same: That there be subjoined to the said statement, a report of the greatest elevation of any part of the said road, the average breadth thereof, and of the bed of stone or gravel laid thereupon, with the depth of the materials at the sides and in the centre of such bed: Also, what provision, if any, has hitherto been made for keeping the whole or any part of the said road in repair, and the past expense, if any, attending such repairs.

Collection of the Revenue.

The House took up for consideration the bill supplementary to the act to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage. The bill

is of great length and contains 27 sections. Much time was consumed in going through the details of the bill, and discussing motions to amend them; after which the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Additional Duties.

The House in committee of the whole, on the bill to encrease the duties on iron in bars and bolts, iron in pigs, castings, nails and allum, and to disallow the drawback on gunpowder. Several amendments having been proposed, and the bill gone through, the house took up the bill to encrease the duties on certain manufactured articles (paper, shot, &c.) imported into the United States, and to change the duty from advalorem to specific. Several amendments were proposed which produced much debate. Mr. Pitkin's motion to strike out the modification of the duty on paper prevailed.

The bill having been reported to the House, the amendments made were agreed to, and the bill ordered to a third reading. Adjourned.

Wednesday, April 15.

Financial discovery.

Mr. Lowndes, from the committee of ways and means, to whom was referred the memorial of Manuel Torres, who offers to the United States a financial discovery, which he considers of great value, reported that his suggestions were, from the respectable personal character of the memorialist, entitled to an examination; but that the remainder of this session, if the whole time of the committee were devoted to it, was not sufficient for the due investigation of the subject, and therefore recommending that it be postponed to the next session.—Concurred in.

Neutral Relations.

Mr. Forsythe from the Committee on foreign relations to whom was referred the bill from the Senate on this subject reported the opinion of the Committee that the amendments, one excepted ought to be concurred in. On suggestion of Mr. Tucker the amendments were laid on the table, to give further time for consideration.

Bank of the United States.

The bill from the senate to amend the charter of this bank, so as to authorise the appointment of a Vice President and Deputy Cashier was read a second time and on motion of Mr. Little referred to the committee on the judiciary, 61 to 55.

The Slave trade.

This subject was taken up, and an attempt made to amend it on motion of Mr. Simpkins so as to authorise a sale of such slaves as might be seized for being illegally imported into the United States one half of the proceeds to the United States and the other to the officer making the seizure. Mr. H. Nelson protested against the introduction of a provision so repugnant to the principles of our government. The amendment was rejected and the bill ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill Supplementary to the act to regulate the collection of the duties on imports and tonnage; to provide for the deposit of imported wines or distilled spirits in the public warehouses; to increase the duties on iron, nails, allum, &c. and to disallow the drawback on gunpowder; and to increase the duty on the importation of certain manufactured articles, were severally read a third time, passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The question on the last bill but one, was decided by yeas and nays, 58 to 47.

The bill from the senate to suspend, for a limited time, the sale or forfeiture of lands for failure to complete the payments thereon, was read a third time and finally passed.

Meeting of Congress. The House concurred with the Senate in fixing the time for the next meeting of Congress on the third instead of the first Monday in November next.

A message was received from the President to the House of Representatives, transmitting, in compliance with the request of the House, all the information in possession of the government, concerning the confinement of certain American citizens by the Viceroy of Mexico.

Duty on imported Cottons and Woolens. The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill to continue in force, from and after the 30th of June, 1819, until the 30th of June, 1826, the 4th paragraph of the first section of the act "to regulate the duties on imports and tonnage." The paragraph referred to is that which establishes the duty on the importation of foreign manufactures, of which the principal material is wool or cotton, &c.

[See *Nat. Reg.* vol. 1. page 226. Tariff of the United States.] There were several attempts made to amend the bill, but all failed. The bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading by a vote of 106 to 34.

Adjourned

Thursday, April 16.

Delinquent Paymasters.

Mr. T. M. Nelson reported a bill to authorize the recovery of public money. [Providing that suit may be commenced to coerce a settlement of open accounts of persons who receive and expend the public monies.] This bill was twice read.

Mr. Nelson moved for a third reading of the bill, when a short debate ensued, when the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Louisiana and Missouri Land Claims.

On motion of Mr. Robertson, of Lou. the memorials and petitions relative to land claims, addressed to this house from Louisiana and Missouri, were referred to the secretary of the treasury, with a request to report a plan to the house at the next session for their liquidation and settlement.

Amendment of the Constitution.

Mr. Lewis offered for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, two thirds of the same concurring, That the following sections be recommended to the several states of the union, for their adoption, as amendments to the constitution of the United States:—

I. The President of the United States shall not, in future, have the power of approving or disapproving any bill, or bills, or joint resolutions, passed by the Senate and House of Representatives.

II. The Senate and House of Representatives of the United States shall, by joint ballot, appoint to offices, and fill all vacancies, in the judiciary of the United States.

III. The Senate and House of Representatives of the United States shall appoint, by joint ballot, the following heads of departments, whose term

of service shall continue — years; but may be removed from office at any time, during the term for which they were elected, for inability to discharge the duties of office, or for high crimes and misdemeanors.

1st. A Secretary of the Treasury, who shall appoint all officers belonging to the department of the Treasury.

2d. A Secretary of War, who shall have the power of appointing all officers, both civil and military, belonging to the Department of War.

3d. A Secretary of the Navy, who shall have the power to appoint all officers, both civil and military, belonging to the Department of the Navy.

4th. A Post Master General, who shall have the power to appoint all officers belonging to the Post Office Department.

IV. Vacancies, occasioned by death, resignation, or removal from office, in the Judiciary, or the heads of departments, during the recess of congress, shall be filled by the President, subject to the approval or rejection of congress at their next session.

V. The Heads of Departments, shall be amenable to Congress for all appointments made by them; and to prevent improper recommendations to office, whenever any person, in office, shall be convicted of any crime, misdemeanor, or be dismissed from office for neglect of duty, the name of the person so convicted, or dismissed, with the name or names of those who recommended him to office, shall be advertised for six months, in some newspaper, in every state and territory of the United States in which there shall be a printing office.

V. No member of Congress shall be appointed to any office, either civil or military, under the government of the United States, during the term for which he was elected, and for twelve months thereafter.

The resolution having been read, was, on motion of Mr. Lewis, ordered to lie on the table, and be printed.

On motion of Mr. Robertson, of Lou. it was Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to obtain from the Spanish authorities, all the records and official documents appertaining to the government of Louisiana, particularly such as concern grants and titles to land, which may have been taken out of that country at the period of its cession to the United States.

And a committee was appointed to wait on the President of the United States with the resolution.

Bank of the United States.

Mr. H. Nelson, from the committee on the judiciary, having reported, without amendment, the bill from the senate to authorize the Bank of the United States to appoint a Vice President, &c.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore to strike out the first section of the bill.

Whereupon, Mr. Poindexter moved to postpone the bill indefinitely.

This motion gave rise to an animated debate of two or three hours.

The question being taken on the indefinite postponement of the bill was decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Anstin, Baldwin, Barbour, Va. Barber, O. Bateman, Beecher, Bennett, Blount, Boden, Burwell, Campbell, Claiborne, Cook, Crawford, Cruger, Darlington, Desha, Drake, Edwards, Ellicott, Ervin, S. C. Floyd, Forney, Gage,

Garnett, Hendricks, Herbert, Herkimer, Herrick, Hitchcock, Hogg, Holmes, Con. Hubbard, Hunter, Huntingdon, Irving, N. Y. Johnson, Va. Jones, Kinsey, Linn, Little, Livermore, Marchand, Mason, R. I. Mercer, Merrill, Miller, Moore, Morton, Murray, T. M. Nelson, Ogle, Owen, Palmer, Patterson, Peter, Pleasants, Poindexter, Porter, Reed, Rhea, Ringgold, Sampson, Savage, Scudder, Settle, Sherwood, Slocumb, Bal. Smith, Speed, Spencer, Stewart, N. C. Stuart, Md. Tarr, Taylor, Tompkins, Tucker, Va. Tucker, S. C. Walker, N. C. Walker, Ken. Wallace, Wendover, Whiteside, Williams, Con. Wilkin,—85.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Allen, Vt. Bassett, Bloomfield, Boss, Butler, Clagett, Cobb, Colston, Crafts, Forsyth, Hall, Del. Harrison, Hiester, Hopkinson, Ingham, Johnson, Ken. Kirtland, Lowndes, W. P. Maclay, McCoy, Mason, Mass. Middleton, Mosely, Mumford, H. Nelson, Pawling, Pindall, Pitkin, Rich, Richards, Robertson, Ken. Robertson, Lou. Rogers, Ruggles, Sawyer, Sergeant, Silsbee, Simkins, S. Smith, J. S. Smith, Southard, Strong, Strother, Townsend, Trimble, Upham, Whitman, Williams, N. C. Wilson, Penn.—50.

So the bill was rejected.

The bill from the senate in addition to the act to prohibit the introduction of slaves into the United States, was read a third time and passed.

The engrossed bill, to continue in force from June 1819 to June 1826, the clause of the act of 1816, laying duties on imported cottons, woolsens, &c. was read the third time, passed, and sent to the senate for concurrence.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. H. Nelson in the chair, on the invalid pensioners' bill.

This bill, as usual, occupied the committee some hours, and produced considerable discussion arising on motions by different gentlemen, to insert in the bill the names of various invalid soldiers, either not previously sent to the committee on pensions, or reported on unfavorably by that committee. These cases rarely involve any new principle, and are too confined in their interest to require particular notice.

Mr. Clay moved to insert the name of Charles Earnest, an orphan boy, who is deaf and dumb, and whose father received a wound at Bladensburg which caused his death. The son being left destitute, Mr. C. moved to authorize the sum of 250 dollars per annum, to be expended under the direction of the secretary of war, to defray the expenses of educating this unfortunate boy at the asylum for the deaf and dumb in Connecticut, which motion was carried without opposition.

The house proceeded with the bill until past 1 o'clock before it was concluded, when the committee rose, reported the amendments, and the house adjourned.

Of Amelia Island.—It is impossible for us to present to find room for all the papers transmitted by the president to congress, together with the message of the 25th ultimo, respecting Amelia Island.

The most interesting and authentic papers of the following, which is entirely corroborated in all its parts by the less formal papers which detail the history of general MacGregor's views and proceedings.—*Nat. Int.*

Major Bankhead and captain Henly to the president, dated Fernandina, Amelia Island, January 10, 1818.

SIR—If any additional testimony were necessary to prove that general Aury had no authority to take possession of this island, it may be found in the documents under which he claims the right to have acted as he has done. At his urgent solicitation we have carefully examined these documents, and from them it is evident that he has had no privilege or power granted to him even for the establishment at Galvetzon or Matagorda, but that which he derived from Don Manuel D. Herrera, who, it appears, was sent by the Mexican congress as minister to the United States, but proceeded no further than the city of New Orleans. During his stay at that place, a correspondence was opened between him and Aury, and the plan of an establishment at Galvetzon agreed on. They met at that place, and formed a provisional government, of which Aury was made the governor, subject to the confirmation or rejection of the Mexican congress. Before any communication was had with the said congress, it was dissolved and dispersed by the Spanish forces; and Aury, having lost a number of his vessels on the Mexican coast, and unable to maintain his position either of Galvetzon or Matagorda, sailed for this place, which he had heard was in possession of the forces under general MacGregor. On his arrival here, MacGregor had abandoned the post, which was then held by Hubbard and Irwin, with the rabble which had been collected from the streets of Charleston, South Carolina, and Savannah.—After considerable contention for the supreme power, between Hubbard and this rabble, and Aury and his black followers, the latter, from the influence of the money brought with them, prevailed, and hoisted the Mexican flag.

These facts, we have no doubt, are all known to you, but as our information is derived from the best authority, the documents in the possession of gen. Aury, we have thought it proper, and have therefore taken the liberty to make this communication directly to you.

We have the honor to be, with sentiments of the highest respect, your most obedient servants,

J. D. HENLEY,

Commanding naval forces off Amelia Island

JAS. BANKHEAD,

Major 1st battalion artillery, southern division, commanding United States' troops on Amelia Island.

His Excellency JAMES MONROE,
President of the United States.

Among the papers communicated by M. Pazos, along with his remonstrance, to the Executive, the following document is the most prominent.

Translation of Sir Gregor MacGregor's commission.

The deputies of Free America, resident in the United States of the north, to their compatriot, Gregor MacGregor, general of brigade in the service of the United Provinces of New Grenada and Venezuela, greeting:

Whereas it is highly important to the interests of the people whom we have the honor to represent, that possession should be taken without loss of time, of East and West Florida, and the blessings of free institutions, and the security of their natural rights, imparted to their inhabitants: In pursuance to our instructions, and in conformity to the desires of our respective governments, we have commissioned brigadier general Gregor MacGregor, for the purpose of carrying into exe-

cution, either wholly or in part, an enterprize so interesting to the glorious cause in which we are engaged.

Therefore, taking into consideration your zeal and devotion to the republic, we request you, in the name of our constituents, to proceed, on your own responsibility, and that of the above named provinces, to adopt such measures as in your judgment may most effectually tend to procure for our brethren of both the Floridas, East and West, the speedy enjoyment of those great merits to which they are invited by the advantage of their geographical situation; and for that purpose we authorize you, without departing from the usages and customs of civilized nations in like cases, and the due observance of the laws of the United States, and particularly those regulating their neutrality with foreign powers, to cause vessels to be armed without the limits of their jurisdiction, and provisionally to grant rank to naval and military officers, until the government, to be established by the free will of the said people, can provide in the most suitable mode for the arrangement of their several departments: in the execution of all which, the instructions delivered to you of this date will serve as your guide.

Signed, sealed, and delivered, at the city of Philadelphia, the 31st of March, 1817.

LINO DE CLEMENTE,

Deputy from Venezuela.

PEDRO GUAL,

Deputy from New Grenada, and as proxy for F. Zarate, deputy from Mexico.

MARTIN THOMPSON,

Deputy from Rio de la Plata.

A true copy of the original in my possession—Philadelphia, 15th January, 1818—8th.

LINO DE CLEMENTE.

Here we find three deputies from three provinces, and a proxy for a fourth, constituting, within the United States an officer with, in fact, almost imperial powers, if he had been able to carry them into execution. The expedition was therefore, in its origin, as well as in its progress, in direct violation of our laws.

The following is the reply of the Secretary of State to the remonstrance of M. Pazos, against the occupation of Amelia, and is the last of the series.

The Secretary of State to Don Vincente Pazos.

WASHINGTON, 5TH MARCH, 1818.

SIR—Your memorial addressed to the President of the United States, and the papers accompanying the same, have been laid before him; and I am directed to inform you, that his views of the transactions at Amelia Island, and the measures which he thought proper to take in consequence of them, have been made known to the world by his communications to congress at the commencement of the present session, and by his message of the 15th of January last. He has given full consideration to your memorial, and other papers, and perceiving nothing in them exhibiting the proceedings at Amelia in a different character from that in which he had before viewed them, he sees no reason for revoking any of the measures which have been taken by his directions in respect to that place, and nothing that requires any other answer to your representations. I am sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

INDIAN NEWS.

Extract of a letter from Major Daniel Hughes, U. S. Factor, to the Editors of the *Geogia Journal*, dated

Fort Mitchell, March, 24.

"I have particular pleasure in giving you copies of letters received by me from William M'Intosh, general commanding the Creek regiment of Indians, who marched from here on the 26th ultimo, with only 6 days provisions, for Fort Gaines. He arrived there on the 5th instant, where he received six days corn only for his warriors, and then pushed against the enemy—He is highly deserving the character of a warrior. His conduct proves him the decided friend of our government and laws; he is the violent enemy of the hostile party, and they must expect to feel the weight of his arm if they give him battle."

"He has done what he mentions in his letters, while on his march from this post to join general Jackson, and is exclusively entitled to all the merit of his labor and perseverance."

Copies of letters from gen. William M'Intosh, commanding the Creek regiment, to maj. Daniel Hughes, U. S. factor at Fort Mitchell.

Uche Old Fields, March 2.

"Sir—I wish you would inform our agent and our head men, that since I left Fort Mitchell, the fourth day, at 12 o'clock, I have taken three of our enemies that were firing on the vessels on this river, and one was wounded at the same place when firing on the vessels. I have got them in strings, carrying them to Fort Gaines, and expect to catch some more before I get there. Nothing more, but the creeks are very high; it is as much as we can do to travel.

I remain your friend,

WM. M'INTOSH,
General commanding."
Fort Gaines, March 6.

"Major Daniel Hughes—I wrote you the other day and told that I had taken three prisoners; I carried them to Fort Gaines to the commanding officer, and he told me he would have nothing to do with them, and said to me, you may deal with them by your own laws. We had proof that they were at the destroying of the boat below the fork of Flint river, and one of them was wounded at that time; they were doing mischief to our friends, and I knew what was the law between us and the United States; I did not want them to stand on our land, and I have taken their lives. I have heard where a good many of our enemies are collected, about 40 miles from this place, and I am going to push on there tomorrow as fast as I can, till I can get where they are. This is all I have to say to you and our head men and agent, and whatever I do hereafter, I will let you know again. Nothing more; all my men are healthy.

Your friend,

WM. M'INTOSH,
Gen. com. Creek Indians.

"P. S. The commanding officer at Fort Gaines had taken the Tame King's son a prisoner, and gave him up to me; I heard no harm against him, and have turned him loose again, and now he has joined us."

March 10, 1818.

"My friend—I received your letter on the 9th day of this month; on the Sunday in the

evening there was about 14 of our old enemies came and gave themselves up to us, with their women and children; I sent their women back with some of our own people to the Ufaula, and we have taken two of the men along with us as pilots. They told me, that the Red Ground Chief had got a great many of our enemies collected together to fight, and these two men are piloting us to him. About one hour after we took these people, ten more men came into our camp with white flags, and joined us. I send this to you I am going to-day, and to-morrow about 9 o'clock the fight will be ended with us; if I conquer the Red Ground Chief, I do not expect to meet as many more in number hereafter; you will hear from me as quick as the fight is over with us.

Your friend,

WM. M'INTOSH,
Gen. com. the Creek army."

Chaubulle, March 16.

"Sir—I have the honor of writing to you again as I promised you I would do. I went down the Creek Chaubulle the 12th day of March, about ten miles above the camp of Couchatee Micco, or Red Ground Chief, and the Creek Swamp was so bad we could not pass it for the high waters; my men had to leave their clothes and provisions, and swim better than one half of the swamp, about six miles wide; we marched within about two miles of his station, and the next morning we surrounded his place, but he was gone, and we could not follow him till we could get some provisions we had left behind us; I and Major Hawkins followed him and overtook his party, and he got away from us with about 30 men.—We have taken 53 men and about 180 women and children prisoners, without the fire of a gun; and we killed ten men that broke to try and make their escape. I have not lost a man since I left Fort Mitchell. He would not have got away from us, but he had some cattle on hand that he tried to drive out of our way; so I sent 100 men to take him and his cattle; when they came in sight, he and his party being well mounted on horses, they got away; we got what cattle he had with him. We are very scarce of provisions, and I have to send the women and children up into our nation. As for the men, I am going to take them to Gen. Jackson. Now there is no danger on the west side of the Chatahoochie river, as this was all the party that was on this side—we have to look for our enemy on the east side of the river now. You will be so good as to inform my head men and agent of this. I send to you, my friend and brother.

GEN. WM. M'INTOSH,
Commanding the Creek Indians."

Extract of a letter from Fort Hawkins, 18th March, 1818.

"The Upper Creeks have joined the army at Fort Scott with two thousand warriors, all anxious to take the field against their turbulent neighbors, they are under the command of M'Intosh and Lovett, two of their most distinguished chiefs.

"The army will consist of from four to five thousand men, and if the savages can be brought to action we shall have no more complaints from that quarter of our country."

SUMMARY.

SWEDEN

The London courier says, The death of the King of Sweden is an event of more interest to party feeling than to political power. Bernadotte will succeed to the throne, and Sweden will remain precisely as she was. He indeed may fear to meet an ungracious countenance on all sides. He may apprehend that the enemies of law, now nicknamed legitimacy, may scowl upon his greatness, as a child of the revolution; but if he has been a child, at least he has not been a champion of Jacobinism. A soldier of fortune, the French revolution threw him upon his present eminence, which his superior mind and gracious services to both Danes and Swedes secured to him. He dethroned no prince by fraud, he trampled down no dynasty by revolutionary ruffian hoofs, he pillaged no country, he insulted no people.—The reigning king of Sweden, conscious of unmerited unpopularity, in disgust, abdicated the throne, and was legitimately succeeded by his uncle, a favorite of the people.—To prop this change against the power of Bonaparte, under which almost all the thrones of Europe were then tottering, Bernadotte was called in by the popular party, and appointed next in succession as crown prince. He was not indebted to Bonaparte or to France for this promotion, but to the humanity and wisdom with which he exercised in the north his authority as a French viceroy. Revolutionary principles were as well satisfied by this proceeding as the more strict principles of legitimacy. He was a child of the French revolution, and he was the choice of the people of Sweden, not suddenly elevated to the throne, but to ascend it in due succession, after future services should have confirmed the gratitude which the past had created. Thus his accession must be as popular as it is just and irreproachable."

GERMANY

A letter received in London dated Vienna Feb'y. 8th says, The conjectures formed by the public some time since, have lately acquired such a degree of moral certainty, that I can no longer refrain from communicating to you what is entitled to full confidence. No doubt is entertained that our august sovereign yielded to the reiterated offers and representations of the Germanic body, has consented to resume the imperial crown of Germany. One of our most enlightened publicists has prepared the *Acte Capitulaire*, which, since the 2nd of this month, has been accepted and ratified in all its points. Though the details circulated at court are not stamped with sufficient authenticity to justify my transcribing them, yet I will add, that it is universally believed the ancient council of the empire is to be re-established (Reichshofrath at Vienna; that besides the imperial dignity, the hereditary prince is to be created king of Germany, and that the functions of field marshal of the German empire have been given with common accord to the archduke Charles, who quits his post of captain-general of Bohemia. These innovations or rather this return to our ancient usages, inspire the best grounded hopes for the future."

ENGLAND.

The brig Tom Hazard, arrived at New York on the 13th instant from Liverpool, and has brought Liverpool dates to the 4th March and London to the 2d. The most prominent political intelligence relates to Sweden, which see

Currency. The amount of bank of England notes in circulation, on the 12th of January last, was 30,619,440l being something above two millions more than on the corresponding day in January, 1817. The increase is entirely in notes above 5l.; in the smaller notes there has been a decrease of about 750,000l.

London, Feb. 27—The ports are now open for the importation of foreign wheat, barley, and oats, for six weeks, from all the ports between Jutland and Spain; and for three months from all other ports.

The state dress in which Joseph Bonaparte appeared as sovereign of Spain, at his first levee is at this time exposed for sale in the window of an old clothes shop at the west end of the town. The coat is of the finest blue cloth, most superbly embroidered in gold, down all the seams, cuffs, collar, and pockets, with oak leaves and acorns, and it is said originally to have cost between two and three hundred pounds.

Liverpool.—Cotton 2s and a half cents, for Upland was asked and 21 and a fourth would be given—Sales inconsiderable. The wants of consumers are pressing, but refuse to advance the one fourth cent.

Flour American.—Stock on hand 30,001bbls. Sweet, and 23,500 barrels sour. Sales at auction for sweet flour about \$11 23cts. Asking price \$12 50cts.

Rice.—Within this week passed Carolina rice has advanced 3 a 4 per cent. There appears some disposition to speculate, as it is understood that the duty of twenty and one fourth per hundred weight will be resumed on the 15th of April on American rice. East India rice will be admitted duty free till the first of January 1819. The import this season has been 2917 casks, of which only two hundred and seventy seven tierces and seventy-seven half ditto remain unsold, and are held at forty-two shillings per hundred weight.

One parcel of three hundred barrels of turpentine comprises the whole of our stock of that article in first hands: nineteen shillings are asked for it.

FRANCE

Duke of Wellington.—On the night of the 10th of February, an attempt was made on the life of the duke of Wellington, as he was returning from the Italian opera, in Paris, by the firing of a rifle, the ball of which shattered to pieces the thick glass of his coach window. The window had, but a moment before the ball struck it, been shut, which circumstance it is supposed, saved the life of the duke. The assassin had not been detected.

Liberty of the Press. All the copies of the third number of the *Sentinelle del Honneur*, which was on sale for a few days, have been seized. This political pamphlet is written by M. Jouslin de la Salla, the cousin of Gen. Bertrand, who is at St. Helena. The duke of Wellington is described in it as an insolent pro-consul, and the most marked endeavours are made to direct against him the contempt and hatred of the French nation. The author, it is said, will be brought to trial.

The indefatigable Abbe de Pradt has published another work on South America and Brazil,

Chamber of Deputies.—Bulletin of the 17th.

The commission of the budget assembled to day. In the meeting of yesterday, M. Roy was

nominated reporter of that part of the budget which relates to the disbursement's.

M. Duport (of the Eure) explained, in a secret committee, his proposition on the subject of a petition supplicating the king to submit a law to secure the constitutional exercise of the liberty of the press, to fix the responsibility of authors and printers, to specify the offences of the press, and to invest juries with the right of judging of the

After a short discussion, the chamber decided that there was no occasion for deliberating on the proposition.

[We received last evening the following note from the gentleman who furnished the MS. "*Letters from Washington*," in reply to some strictures which appeared in the National Intelligencer of yesterday. We wish it to be clearly understood, that we do not feel responsible for the correctness of the portraits contained in those letters. If any are erroneous, we shall freely give such corrections as may be furnished, written in a becoming manner.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

I have noticed in the Intelligencer of Friday, some remarks in opposition to the character of Mr. Calhoun, given by a "Foreigner," in the Register. As the writer is not present, and therefore, cannot defend himself, I feel constrained, by that courtesy which is due to a stranger and a gentleman of high rank, to make a few observations in reply. I profess to have a knowledge of Mr. C's. public life, and from that knowledge, have no hesitation in asserting, that the portrait which has been given of him, is correct in all its features, and if any thing, rather too flattering.—It is unnecessary to be more particular, because the defects which have been mentioned, are known to all his political associates. The very case which his eulogist in the Intelligencer mentions, that of the United States Bank, is one that may be brought against him, and evinces that the writer is perfectly ignorant of the gentleman he attempts to bedizen. Mr. C. will himself recollect the fluctuating and vacillating policy he adopted in relation to that measure, and the *Treasury Note* scheme suggested by an "acknowledged visionary," he as well as his friends still remember, was embraced by him with that avidity, which novelty always produces in a fertile mind. The writer of the letters alluded to, had no intention, I presume, to depreciate the character of Mr. C.; on the contrary, he has in some cases colored too highly, and he must have known that as well as his professed eulogist. Mr. C. did not in every case discover inconsistency of conduct; because that would have been presupposing an absurdity. That he was sometimes inconsistent, however, is beyond all question, and it is in vain to deny it, because it is on record; it is to be found in the

history of congress. When the "Foreigner" speaks of Mr. C's. *correctness*, he evidently alludes to his manner of speaking, and not to his mind or his conduct; and his having the *brilliance* of Burke and the *ingenuity* of Godwin, does not, it is believed, prevent him from being fluctuating and inconsistent. To be inconsistent, however, it is conjectured, does not lessen the merit of Mr. C.; nor to be obstinate in absurdity, is an evidence of stupidity and folly, and the greatest minds have in the course of life, rejected theories to which they had been attached, and adopted principle, from which they had once been averse. The Foreigner very justly ascribes Mr. C's. inconsistencies to youth and inebriance of mind, and correctly supposes that age will remedy these defects and redundancies. I am happy that the author of the letters in your Register, has given the "Native American" an opportunity to *plaster* Mr. C.; because, I have no doubt, he *expects to receive his reward*.

A FRIEND.

New flag.—On Monday last the 13th instant, about two o'clock, the new flag of the United States, was hoisted on the flag staff of the house of representatives. The stars are twenty in number, and so disposed as to form one great star in the centre of a blue field. The stripes are thirteen; we understand this is the first flag made, conformably to the act altering the banner of the nation.

It was made in New York, under the direction of the gallant captain Reed, late commander of the privateer general Armstrong.

It will be recollected the law on this subject, does not go into operation until the 4th July next.

George Washington Campbell, a senator in Congress from Tennessee, has been appointed by the President, with the approbation of the senate, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the court of Russia.

General James Wilkinson has been appointed by the Governor of Louisiana, quarantine master for the port of New Orleans.

Bank robbery.—On the night of the 6th instant, two persons by the aid of keys of their own manufacture, entered the *Mechanic's Bank* of Pittsburg, and carried off a large amount of specie and notes, none of which had been recovered on the tenth. The bank directors have offered a reward of one thousand dollars for the apprehension of the robbers and the recovery of the money, or five hundred dollars for the robbers alone.

ERRATA.

The Editor must apologize for some errors, which have crept into the last letter from Washington, and hopes the reader will correct them.

In the 1st column and tenth line for friends, read *fiends*. In the second column and twenty-fourth line for revolution, read *revolutions*. In the note on the second column for of, read *to*. In the fifth column and sixteenth line for which, read *who*. In the same, and twenty-first line for however, read *power*. In the same, and forty-third line for who, read *which*.